**Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_**

**Document Based Essay Question: Neolithic Revolution**

*This question is based on the accompanying documents. The question is designed to test your ability to work with historical documents. Some of these documents have been edited for the purposes of this question. As you analyze the documents, take into account the source of each document and any point of view that may be presented in the document.*

***PART B: ESSAY***

***Directions****: Write a well-organized essay that includes an introduction, several paragraphs, and a conclusion. Use evidence from all four documents in your essay. Support your response with relevant facts, examples, and details. Include additional outside information.*

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| --- |
| ***Historical Context:***  ***One of the most important turning points in human history was the change that occurred during the Neolithic Revolution. This shift from the Paleolithic Era to the Neolithic Era changed the course of the human race.*** |

***Task(s):*** *Using the information from the documents and your knowledge of global history, write an essay in which you:*

***• Describe the change experienced from the Paleolithic era to the Neolithic era.***

***• Discuss how this change influenced the development of civilizations.***

In developing your answers to the questions and essay, be sure to keep these general definitions in mind**:**

**a) explain means “to make plain or understandable; to give reasons for or causes of; to show the logical development or relationships of”**

**b) discuss means “to make observations about something using facts, reasoning, and argument; to present in some detail”**

**Mrs. Valdes’ Sample DBQ Essay**

**Introduction/Thesis:**

Throughout history, revolutions have changed the course of the world. Revolutions often bring about important permanent changes. One revolution which has significantly impacted history is the Neolithic Revolution. A revolution is also known as “turning point” in history. The Neolithic Revolution occurred thousands of years ago, and changed the way humans lived. It was the change from the **Paleolithic Era** or **Old Stone Age** to the **Neolithic Era** or **New Stone Age**.

**Body Paragraph #1:**

The Neolithic Revolution occurred around 10,000 BC. and forever changed the way humans lived. During the Paleolithic Era or Old Stone Age, most people lived a nomadic lifestyle, following herds of animals to hunt for their food. **[Doc 1]** The men hunted the animals and the women gathered berries, nuts and fruit. They often lived in small communities as there wasn’t enough food to feed large groups of people. They had stone tools and weak weapons made of things such as wood, rock, or bones. The people of the Old Stone Age depended on their environment to supply the food needed for survival. **[Doc 4]**

**Body Paragraph #2:**

After the Neolithic Revolution, humans stopped moving in search of food and settled into permanent villages which grew into cities and civilizations were formed. Examples of such early permanent settlements can be found at Jericho on the West Bank of the Jordan River and at Catal Huyuk in Turkey. **[Doc 6]**  Early humans learned to farm and domesticate or tame animals. They planted or cultivated crops such as: wheat, barley, peas, lentils, olives, grapes and figs and domesticated animals such as: sheep, goats, cattle and pigs for food. **[Doc 3]** These new developments resulted inan agricultural surplus or extra supply of food which early humans could either store for later use or trade with others. **[Doc 5]**

**Body Paragraph #3:**

One result of this agricultural surplus was that early humans now had a stable food supply which allowed the population to grow. They could store extra food or trade it for goods that they needed. Another result of this agricultural surplus was that job specialization occurred and new inventions developed. Many people stopped looking for food and began to make tools and other goods that farmers needed. **[Doc 2]** These inventions include the plow, which aided in farming the land and the loom which was used to wave clothes. The invention of the wheel later followed which was used for transportation and trade. **[Doc 6]**